**Rex**

**By: Brendan Shepherd**

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*-For my Grandma-because of how much she loves dogs (Beagles Mostly.)*

*1*

Cody’s eyes raced around the pet shop. He looked from dog to dog to dog. He couldn’t decide on the perfect dog. *This is the best day ever!!!!* Cody thought. *I get my own dog!!!* Cody, at ten years old, was looking around the gigantic pet shop. Cody turned his head right. He saw a small brown dog in a silver barred cage. *Nah, I don’t want that one.* He thought to himself. His eyes raced around some more: Small dogs, big dogs, fat dogs, skinny dogs, black dogs, white dogs, lots and lots of dogs. He had been in the pet shop for at least an hour. Maybe more. Then, he turned his head right and finally, he found it. The perfect dog. It was a smaller dog. It was black, tan, and white. It looked like a beagle. The dog was in a silver locked-up cage. The second he looked at it he knew that it has the perfect dog for him.

*That dog is mine.* Cody thought.

“Mom!” Cody yelled. “I want this one!” Cody yelled.

“You sure?” Cody’s mom asked.

“Yes! I’m positive!” Cody yelled.

“Alright then! I’ll go get someone who works here. They’ll get him out for you.” Cody’s mom said.

“I can’t wait to bring him home!” Cody said with excitement. A man who worked there walked over to the dog’s cage and got the dog out for Cody. He walked over to a small cage. He put the dog into that cage and handed the cage to Cody.

“There you go, son.” The man said. Cody knew just what to name his dog.

“Rex!” he said aloud.

2

On the way home, Cody took Rex out of his cage. HORRIBLE mistake. Rex was acting like a jumping bean. No, Rex *was* a jumping bean. He was running and jumping and barking all over the car. Cody and his mom were very annoyed. Rex barked and barked and barked and barked. It seemed like he would never stop. He never would. Rex’s barking was super duper loud. Reader, you wouldn’t want to be inside that car for one split second. It was too loud. And Cody got too annoyed. He grabbed Rex and put him back in his cage. But before Cody could close the cage door, Rex burst out and ran to the front seat and bit Cody’s mom.

“OWWWWWW!” She screeched. “Cody! Get this dog off of me!” Cody’s mom yelled. Cody raced to the front seat and grabbed Rex and shoved him in his cage. “Bad Rex!!” Cody’s mom yelled.

“Rex, you can’t do that.” Cody said. And then they pulled into the driveway.

3

Cody opened the door of the car. He ran outside with Rex in his cage. Once they good to the front yard, Cody opened the cage. Rex came out. Cody had a tennis ball. He threw it. Rex ran through the yard and jumped up in the air and caught the tennis ball. Rex brought it back to Cody. Rex smelled something. It smelled great! He turned his small head right. He saw Cody’s mom’s Garden.

“Arf!” Rex barked. He sprinted toward the garden.

“Where are you going Rex?” Then Cody realized that he was sprinting toward the garden!! Rex was already there tearing up the garden once Cody got to Rex. Over half the garden was already torn by the time Cody finally stopped Rex. The Garden looked horrendous. There were little green leaves everywhere. Stems, too. Carrots were torn out of the ground. Dead roots were laying all over the dark, brown soil. It was horrible.

“Boy, am I gonna get it!4

It was a dark and gloomy Saturday morning. Cody was holding a fork and chewing on a pancake. He was sitting in a pine-colored chair. Rex was underneath the table eating anything that Cody dropped. Cody broke a piece of his pancake and tossed it down to Rex. Rex gobbled it up. All of a sudden, Cody’s mom burst into the kitchen.

“CODY! YOUR STUPID DOG TOOR UP MY GARDEN *AGAIN!* IF YOU DON’T GET HIM TO QUIT YOU’RE GONNA GIVE HIM AWAY!!!”

Cody was stunned. Give him away?!?! Stupid Dog?!?! WHAT?!?!

Rex heard Cody’s mom too. He put his head down and tried to take a nap. Cody was silent. Cody’s mom marched outside to clean it up. “Next time he does that, you’ll be cleanin’ it up!” Cody’s mom was so loud that it seemed as if she was right there yelling into his ear.

“Come on Rex.” Cody said as he stood up and walked down the long hallway to his bedroom.

5

Cody slammed his bedroom door, turned on the lights, and threw himself onto his bed. Rex laid down to take a nap.

“Wake up Rex!” Cody yelled. Rex awoke and slowly lifted his head. He looked at Cody. “If you tear up the garden again, I have to give you away. And I definitely don’t want to do that.” Cody said. Rex was sad. He loved eating the garden. It tasted so sweet on his tongue. It was fun taking things out of the ground. “I’m gonna train you to stop.

6

Cody finally finished making a fake-garden in the left corner of his basement. He even added scent to it. The only real thing for Rex to eat was some Carrot sticks. The rest was what he would tear up. If he did, he would be yelled at. If he didn’t, he would get a treat. “HERE BOY!!!” Cody called. Rex was awoken from his nap. Rex heard Cody and smelled something great and burst into the basement. Once he got to the basement, he saw the garden and toor it up. “Bad Rex! No treat for you!” Rex backed away and lowered his head. Rex was sad. He loved the garden. Cody re-set the garden. Rex started running toward the garden. Then he stopped himself. “Good boy Rex!” Cody said. He took a treat out of his back pocket and tossed it to Rex. He gobbled it up.

7

It had been months since Rex had torn up the garden. Everyday Rex didn’t tear up the garden, he got a treat. Everyday he *did,* He got yelled at.

Then, one October evening, Rex didn’t tear up the garden again.

Then Cody asked his mom, “Mom, do I get to keep Rex now? It has been a long time since he last toor up the garden. Pleeeaaaase?” Cody’s mom thought about it. *Please say I get to keep him, Please say I get to keep him!!* Cody thought.

“Yes, you can keep him now.” Cody’s mom answered.

“YES! I GET TO KEEP YOU NOW REX!” Cody screeched at the top of his lungs. They ran outside into the cool, fall air. *You finally did it Rex,* Cody thought. *You finally did it.*

About the Author

Brendan Shepherd was born on March 1st, 2001. This is the first fictional book he has ever written. Look for more books by Brendan Shepherd!